

Message Text

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13

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /056 W

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R 271727Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6512

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, GW

SUBJECT: MORE BAADER-MEINHOF ARRESTS

1. IN A LARGE-SCALE SEARCH AND SEIZURE OPERATION CARRIED OUT NOVEMBER 26 THROUGHOUT THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC, POLICE HAVE ARRESTED TEN AND BROUGHT CHARGES AGAINST AT LEAST FORTY OTHER SUSPECTED MEMBERS OR SYMPATHIZERS OF THE BAADER-MEINHOF GROUP. THE ACTION CENTERED IN HAMBURG, FRANKFURT, BERLIN, HEIDELBERG AND MUNICH. SEARCH OF APARTMENTS AND LAW OFFICES TURNED UP WHAT AUTHORITIES HAVE LABELLED IMPORTANT EVIDENCE (PHOTOGRAPHS, PLANS, CHEMICAL BOMBS, ETC.) AGAINST THE SUSPECTS, ONE OF WHOM IS A HAMBURG ATTORNEY.

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2. INTERIOR MINISTER VOGEL, WHO EARLIER STATED THAT "THE HARD CORE" OF THE BAADER-MEINHOF GROUP HAD BEEN DESTROYED, IS NOW SAYING THAT "THE GROUP IS FUNCTIONING".

3. COMMENT: THE GOVERNMENT HAS OBVIOUSLY BEEN SHOCKED BY THE DRENKMANN MURDER, AND THE ATMOSPHERE IS ONE OF CONSIDERABLE PUBLIC CONCERN. THE CALLS FOR "LAW AND ORDER", GENERALLY FROM THE RANKS OF THE CDU AND CSU, HAVE BECOME LOUDER AND MORE INSISTENT. THE OPPOSITION CLAIMS THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS NOT DOING ENOUGH. OTHERS BELIEVE THAT THE GOVERNMENT -- WHICH HAS CLEARLY BEEN STUNG BY ACCUSATIONS THAT IT IS "SOFT" ON RADICALS -- MAY BE REACTING IN OVERLY DRAMATIC FASHION. ONE POLITICIAN WHO HAS NOT BEEN GETTING GOOD MARKS IN ALL OF THIS IS CARL CARSTENS. HIS SUGGESTION THAT THOSE ON HUNGER STRIKES SHOULD PERHAPS BE ALLOWED TO DIE HAS MET WITH INCENSED CRITICISM FROM ALL QUARTERS, INCLUDING HIS OWN PARTY.
CASH

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